

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are made in response to the Office Action of December 8, 2008 (Office Action). The response is timely filed within the 3 month shortened statutory period, and, as such, no fee is believed due. However, the Office is expressly authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 50-0951.

Claims Rejections – 35 USC § 103

In the Office Action, Claims 1, and 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0052935 to Paxhia, *et al.* (hereinafter Paxhia) in view of U.S. Patent 5,825,361 to Rubin, *et al.* (hereinafter Rubin). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Paxhia in view of Rubin, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0055863 to Spiegel, *et al.* (hereinafter Spiegel).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections and thus have not amended the claims. Applicants have added Claims 23-35. The added claims are fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter has been introduced.

Aspects of Applicants' Invention

It may be helpful to reiterate certain aspects of Applicants' invention prior to addressing the cited references. One embodiment of the invention, as typified by Claim 1, is a method for configuring Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) settings on a computer having only a non-graphical user interface for manually manipulating TCP/IP configuration flat files.

The method can include providing a graphical user interface for configuring the TCP/IP settings, which can include at least one control; integrating the graphical user interface with the non-graphical user interface; accessing data contained within at least

one configuration flat file containing the TCP/IP settings for the computer; displaying the TCP/IP settings based upon the accessed data within the graphical user interface; and altering one or more of the TCP/IP settings within the at least one configuration flat file responsive to manipulation of the at least one control. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0005] and [0013] to [0015].

The Claims Define Over The Prior Art

A zSeries (R) computer is a product line of large computer servers or mainframes based on the z/Architecture (TM) provided by International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) of Armonk, New York. ZSeries computers can utilize a derivative of the Multiple Virtual Storage (MVS) operating system, which is a robust mainframe operating system utilized by many generations of IBM (R) mainframe computers. Derivatives of the MVS (TM) operating system can include the OS/390 (R) operating system and z/OS (R). Each of these operating systems support message conveyance through Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). See specification, paragraph [0002].

In order to exchange messages using TCP/IP, however, a zSeries computer must be properly configured for TCP/IP messaging. Configuring the zSeries computer involves setting parameters of designated configuration files to appropriate settings. Traditionally, manipulations of TCP/IP configuration files has been a manual process requiring system administrators to open a configuration file, edit one or more parameters, and subsequently save the modified configuration file. Manually manipulating TCP/IP configuration files, however, can be a challenging experience for unwary administrators, as many seemingly reasonable configuration settings are mutually exclusive of one another. Therefore, the manual manipulation of configuration files on zSeries computers can often result in the creation of configuration errors. Although zSeries computers have been extensively utilized for more than a decade, no graphical user interfaces (GUIs)

have been developed to facilitate configuring zSeries computers for TCP/IP messaging. See specification, paragraph [0003].

The present invention provides a method, a system, and an apparatus for integrating a GUI into zSeries (R) computers for configuring Internet communications. More specifically, a GUI for manipulating TCP/IP configuration files of a zSeries computer can be integrated with an Interactive System Productivity Facility (ISPF) for the zSeries computer. It should be noted that the ISPF is the user interface of a zSeries computer that permits authorized administrators to configure and manage the features of the zSeries computer. By integrating a TCP/IP configuration GUI with the ISPF, a consistent and more comprehensive administrative environment can be established. In one embodiment, access to the TCP/IP configuration GUI of the ISPF can be selectively restricted to reduce potential security breaches. In another embodiment, automatic detection and optimization features can be included within the TCP/IP configuration GUI to facilitate the configuration process. Further, autonomic features can be enabled by the TCP/IP configuration GUI that permit specified dynamic adjustments to be situationally performed to minimize downtime. In still another embodiment, the TCP/IP configuration GUI can include syntax and error checking features to pinpoint and alleviate problematic configuration settings. See specification, paragraph [0004].

One aspect of the present invention can include a method for configuring Internet settings on a zSeries computer. The method can include the step of providing a GUI, which includes one or more controls. The GUI can be configured for a multiple virtual storage (MVS) operating system, an OS/390 (R) operating system, and/or a z/OS (R) operating system. The GUI can also be integrated with an ISPF of the zSeries computer. Data contained within at least one configuration file that contains Internet settings for the zSeries computer can be accessed. The accessed data can be displayed within the GUI. Data within the configuration file can also be altered responsive to activities performed within the GUI. Additionally, the configuration file can include TCP/IP configuration

settings that can be displayed and altered via the GUI. See specification, paragraph [0005].

In one embodiment, help relating to configuring Internet communication settings of the zSeries computer can be accessed using the GUI. In another embodiment, a selection list that includes a multitude of user-selectable settings for one or more configuration parameters of the configuration file can be provided within the GUI. The configuration parameters of the configuration file can be updated responsive to a selection within the selection list. Further, multiple ones of the configuration files can be synchronized using the GUI. Additionally, a validity of one or more parameters stored within the configuration file can be checked using the GUI. See specification, paragraph [0006].

Another aspect of the present invention can include a GUI for a zSeries computer. The GUI can include multiple interface elements. At least a portion of the interface elements can display data derived from a flat file of the zSeries computer. The flat file can include TCP/IP configuration settings for the zSeries computer. Selection of at least a portion of the interface elements can alter one or more of the TCP/IP configuration settings of the flat file. The GUI can be integrated within an ISPF of the zSeries computer. Further, at least a portion of the interface elements within the GUI can accept input. The input can be restricted to prevent invalid configuration settings from being written to the flat file. The GUI can also be configured to validate configuration settings within the flat file. Additionally, at least a portion of the interface elements of the GUI can display help information relating to configuring TCP/IP settings for the zSeries computer. See specification, paragraph [0007].

As already discussed in the previous response, Paxhia discloses a system and method for serving HTML pages to web browsers for the purpose of administration and configuration. A plurality of instances of WWW servers is provided, with one such instance including a configuration file which is restricted in usage and not alterable by

way of any HTML configuration or administration forms. This plurality of instances of internet connection servers is managed by way of a web browser. The web browser displays and interacts with a plurality of HTML forms and corresponding common gateway interface binary programs, which are provided selectively for creating and deleting instances of servers, associating a configuration file with a server instance, changing server instance start up parameters, and starting, ending, and restarting server instances. See the Abstract.

Clearly, Paxhia concerns an administration server that is isolated from other servers (thus not adversely affected by the loading of the other servers) and enables the management of multiple copies or instances of servers. This has nothing to do with the subject matter of the present invention, which concerns integrating a graphical user interface (GUI) into computers that only have a non-graphical user interface, such as the zSeries computers of IBM, in order to facilitate configuring the computers for TCP/IP messaging.

Figs. 11-13 of Paxhia show certain configuration and administration pages. However, it is noted that Applicants do not claim to have invented GUIs or any particular layouts of GUIs. Rather, an important concept of the present invention is the integration of a GUI into a computer with only a non-graphical user interface so as to facilitate configuring the particular computer for TCP/IP messaging. It is noted that the GUI, according to the present invention, does not configure or administrate other computers or servers.

Rubin discloses a graphics-oriented technique for enabling a user to configure data processing features of a computer system that includes at least one computer. The data processing features are presented to the user in the form of displayed graphical objects, each of which represents one feature. The user selects a graphical object using an input device of the computer (e.g., a mouse), and is then prompted to enter information associated with the data processing feature represented by the selected object. The

computer system is then enabled to use the data processing feature to process data in accordance with the user-specified information. After the configuration information has been entered for at least some of the objects, symbols are added to the display to indicate that the data processing features that the objects represent have been enabled, which presents to the user a comprehensive, easily understood representation of the current configuration state of the system. See the Abstract.

Col. 12, lines 9-43 of Rubin describes how network connections are configured. It is not clear how these passages disclose integrating a GUI with the non-graphical user interface of a computer that has only a non-graphical user interface for manually manipulating TCP/IP configuration flat files, as in the present invention.

Further, as already discussed in the previous response, the GUI according to the present invention is specifically designed to access configuration flat files, which are usually read or written sequentially and do not have indexes that can be individuated from the individual records. Flat files are often used to transmit data between batch processing systems, especially on mainframes having only non-graphical user interfaces. Neither Paxhia nor Rubin discloses integrating a GUI into computers having only a non-graphical user interface for accessing and manipulating TCP/IP configuration flat files.

Accordingly, the cited references, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest each and every element of Claims 1, 23, 28, and 35. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claims 1, 23, 28, and 35 define over the prior art. Furthermore, as each of the remaining claims depends from Claims 1, 23, or 28 while reciting additional features, Applicants further respectfully submit that the remaining claims likewise define over the prior art.

Applicants thus respectfully request that the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned if it is believed that the above restriction election is incomplete or in any way improper. Applicants also requests that the Examiner call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application to an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Gregory A. Nelson/
Gregory A. Nelson, Registration No. 30,577
Yonghong Chen, Registration No. 56,150
AKERMAN SENTERFITT
Customer No. 40987
Post Office Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000